

Official
RECEIVED
4-3-03

8 plurality of identification codes of vehicle control units, an
9 authorization code being associated in the memory with each of the
10 identification codes of the vehicle control units; and

11 a mobile law enforcement unit for positioning in a law
12 enforcement vehicle, the law enforcement unit including a
13 transceiver for transmitting and receiving signals via free space, the
14 law enforcement unit including means for transmitting the inquiry
15 signal to the vehicle control unit, the law enforcement unit
16 including means for receiving an identification code from the
17 vehicle control unit and transmitting the identification code to
18 central database station, the law enforcement unit including means
19 for transmitting the stop signal with the authorization code via free
20 space to the vehicle control unit upon the receipt of the
21 authorization code from the central database station;

22 wherein the vehicle control unit includes means for connecting
23 to an ignition system of the vehicle, the vehicle control unit
24 including means for lowering an engine speed of the vehicle to an
25 idle condition upon the receipt by the transceiver of a stop signal
26 accompanied by an authorization code via free space within a
27 predetermined amount of time after receipt of the inquiry signal.

1 2. The system of claim 1 wherein the vehicle control unit
2 includes means for connecting to at least one exterior light circuit
3 of the vehicle such that exterior lights of the vehicle are flashable
4 by the vehicle control unit upon receipt of the inquiry signal by the
5 transceiver to provide external visual confirmation of receipt of the
6 inquiry signal by the vehicle control unit.

1 Cancel claim 3.

2

1 4. The system of claim 1 wherein the vehicle control unit
2 includes means for connecting to a horn of the vehicle such that the
3 vehicle control unit actuates the horn of the vehicle upon the receipt
4 by the transceiver of a stop signal accompanied by an authorization
5 code via free space within a predetermined amount of time after
6 receipt of the inquiry signal.

1 7. A vehicle disabling system comprising:
2 a vehicle control unit for positioning in a vehicle, the vehicle
3 control unit including a transceiver for transmitting and receiving
4 signals via free space, the transceiver including means for receiving
5 an inquiry signal and transmitting an identification code upon the
6 receipt of the inquiry signal, the vehicle control unit being
7 connectable to at least one exterior light circuit of the vehicle such
8 that exterior lights of the vehicle are flashable by the vehicle
9 control unit upon receipt of the inquiry signal by the transceiver to
10 provide external visual confirmation of receipt of the inquiry signal
11 by the vehicle control unit, the vehicle control unit being
12 connectable to an ignition system of the vehicle, the vehicle control
13 unit including means for lowering an engine speed of the vehicle to
14 an idle condition upon the receipt by the transceiver of a stop signal
15 accompanied by an authorization code via free space within a
16 predetermined amount of time after receipt of the inquiry signal, the
17 vehicle control unit includes means for connecting to a horn of the
18 vehicle such that the vehicle control unit actuates the horn of the
19 vehicle upon the receipt by the transceiver of a stop signal
20 accompanied by an authorization code via free space within a
21 predetermined amount of time after receipt of the inquiry signal,
22 wherein the predetermined amount of time is approximately 30
23 seconds;
24 a central database station including memory for storing a

25 plurality of identification codes of vehicle control units, an
26 authorization code being associated in the memory with each of the
27 identification codes of the vehicle control units; and
28 a mobile law enforcement unit for positioning in a law
29 enforcement vehicle, the law enforcement unit including a
30 transceiver for transmitting and receiving signals via free space, the
31 law enforcement unit includes means for transmitting the inquiry
32 signal to the vehicle control unit, the law enforcement unit includes
33 means for receiving an identification code from the vehicle control
34 unit and transmitting the identification code to central database
35 station, the law enforcement unit includes means for transmitting
36 the stop signal with the authorization code via free space to the
37 vehicle control unit upon the receipt of the authorization code from
38 the central database station.

1 8. A method of disabling a vehicle comprising the steps of:
2 providing a vehicle control unit for positioning in the vehicle,
3 the vehicle control unit including a transceiver for transmitting and
4 receiving signals via free space;
5 providing a central database station including memory for
6 storing a plurality of identification codes of vehicle control units,
7 the memory of the central database storing an authorization code
8 associated with each of the identification codes of the vehicle
9 control units;
10 providing a mobile law enforcement unit for positioning in a
11 law enforcement vehicle, the law enforcement unit including a
12 transceiver for transmitting and receiving signals via free space;
13 transmitting an inquiry signal from the law enforcement unit
14 to the vehicle control unit;
15 transmitting an identification code from the vehicle control
16 unit to the law enforcement unit;

17 transmitting the identification code from the law enforcement
18 unit to the central database station;
19 matching an authorization code from the memory of the central
20 database station to the identification code; and
21 transmitting a stop signal from the law enforcement unit to the
22 vehicle control unit; and
23 lowering an engine speed of an engine of the vehicle by the
24 vehicle control unit upon the receipt by the vehicle control unit of
25 the stop signal so that the engine of the vehicle is put into an idle
26 condition.

1 10. The method of claim 9 additionally comprising
2 transmitting the authorization code from the law enforcement unit to
3 the vehicle control unit.

Cancel claim 11.

Please add the following claims:

1 14. The system of claim 1 wherein the vehicle control unit
2 includes means for transmitting a signal to a powertrain control
3 module of the vehicle, and the powertrain control module includes
4 means for causing an engine of the vehicle to return to idle and
5 causing a check engine light of the vehicle to illuminate when the
6 powertrain control module does not receive the signal from the
7 vehicle control unit.

In the Abstract:

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 5, with:

A vehicle disabling system is disclosed that includes a vehicle control unit for positioning in a vehicle with a transceiver for transmitting and receiving signals to receive an inquiry signal and

transmit an identification code upon the receipt of the inquiry signal. A central database station includes memory for storing a plurality of identification codes of vehicle control units. An authorization code is associated each identification code. A mobile law enforcement unit is positionable in a law enforcement vehicle, and includes a transceiver for transmitting and receiving signals to transmit the inquiry signal to a vehicle control unit. The law enforcement unit receives an identification code from the vehicle control unit and transmits the identification code to central database station. The law enforcement unit transmits the stop signal with the authorization code to the vehicle control unit upon receiving the authorization code from the central database station.